

University of Groningen

On hereditary ovarian cancer

Teixeira, Natalia

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Propositions

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1. The frequency of *BRCA1/2* mutations in a consecutive cohort of Brazilian ovarian cancer patients is relatively high, emphasizing the relevance of investing on the implementation of genetic risk assessment of ovarian cancer patients in the public health care system in Brazil. – This thesis
2. Available algorithms for predicting *BRCA1/2* mutation carrier risk, although still limited in their accuracy, could be used to reduce the number of patients to be referred for genetic testing substantially. These algorithms could be an important tool for the implementation of genetic risk assessment in areas with limited resources. – This thesis
3. The type of cancer family history is associated with ovarian cancer risks in *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* mutation carriers. However this association is not strong enough to change counseling of *BRCA1/2* mutation carriers regarding timely Risk Reducing Salpingo-Oophorectomy. – This thesis
4. In *BRCA1/2* mutation carriers, the previously reported effect of the mutation position on the gene on cancer risks may explain part, but not all of the impact of a cancer family history on ovarian cancer risk. – This thesis
5. Although women who had Risk Reducing Salpingo Oophorectomy at premenopausal age have an overall healthier life style when compared to age-matched women from the general population, they present a more atherogenic cholesterol profile, with higher serum levels of non-HDL cholesterol and lower serum levels of HDL cholesterol. – This thesis
6. Women who had surgical menopause have lower bone mineral density when compared to age-matched premenopausal women. However, when compared to natural menopause, surgical menopause has no evident impact on bone mineral density and on the prevalence of fractures. – This thesis
7. “Science knows no country, because knowledge belongs to humanity, and is the torch which illuminates the world.” – Louis Pasteur
8. “Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now it is time to understand more, so that we may fear less.” – Marie Curie
9. “...to believe in medicine would be the height of folly, if not to believe in it were not greater folly still, for from this mass of errors there have emerged in the course of time many truths.” - Marcel Proust